

Discover *the city* Allentown

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March 9, 2007

The Honorable Charles Dent
Congressman
502 Canon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dent,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider your position on HR 800 and vote to provide expanded protection for labor union organization and contract negotiation to protect the employees who have made the United States the strongest economic force in the world.

While Allentown and the Lehigh Valley have lost major manufacturers and moved forward in the transition to a new economy, the need for employee protection in organizing and negotiating remains a critical safeguard that guarantees that the people who make the products, provide the services, and drive the local economies are assured of fair wages and working conditions.

This bill provides a straight-forward and common sense approach to organizing and negotiation. In addition to permitting the "card-check," or union certification on majority sign-up, this bill would allow first-contract mediation and arbitration; provide legal recourse to labor organizers in the event of employer intimidation or discrimination; create civil fines for employer violations, and increase back pay for employees unfairly targeted for their pro-union activities.

As the representative for the region that has given the world the Western Electric transistor and subsequent technological advances, Mack Trucks, Bethlehem Steel, and Crayola Crayons, I am sure you understand the important role organized labor has served in establishing the economic strength and traditions of the 15th District.

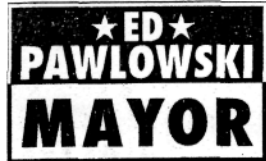
I close by again urging you to reconsider your position on this legislation and honor the grand heritage of the Lehigh Valley.

Sincerely,



Ed Pawlowski
Mayor





Friends of Ed Pawlowski

PO Box 9366 • Allentown, PA 18105-9366 • www.allentownmayor.com

April 6, 2009

As Mayor of the City of Allentown and a strong supporter and advocate of organized labor, I write now to request the endorsement of the Ironworkers in my race for a second term as Mayor. I also ask for your financial support and volunteers as well, both very crucial to the success of my campaign and my victory in November. As Mayor, I vow to continue my initiatives into the future and achieve the results we all look forward to, and I need your vote in order to do that.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention my past performance on behalf of labor in the Lehigh Valley within the context of my job as Mayor of Allentown. I have always taken a stand for the rights of workers and have spoken out against corporate labor law violations. The enclosed letter, which I wrote in 2007, shows my strong opposition to the virulent anti-union campaign engaged in by DHL in response to the workers' efforts to organize their union with the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO.

Additionally, I have been the lone voice as a community leader in urging Congressman Dent to reconsider his position on HR 800 and vote to provide expanded protection for labor union organizations. The Employee Free Choice Act legislation must be passed in order to ensure workers' common sense approach to organizing and negotiating and thereby preserve and honor the grand pro-union heritage of the Lehigh Valley. Please see the enclosed copy of my letter to Charlie Dent dated March of 2007 urging him to cast his vote in favor of this critical safeguard.

As Mayor I opened the door for the Housing Authority staff to be unionized. On another front, I led the way for our school district to work with the labor council to create a labor sponsored apprenticeship training program at the Allentown schools. In addition, I internalized and unionized jobs that were formerly outsourced, i.e. janitorial services. And finally, I joined with the Sheet Metal Workers to create a professional licensing ordinance in the City of Allentown, only the second city in the whole state to accomplish this. Altogether this demonstrates my firm commitment to unions and represents substantial strides for organized labor under my leadership.

Therefore, I humbly ask for the endorsement of the _____ and for a personal endorsement as well. In addition, **I am requesting a contribution of \$2,000 to my re-elect campaign which will ensure our victory in November.** I would be most grateful to receive your contribution before the Primary on May 19, for it will keep our momentum building toward a final victory in November. Checks can be made to:

Friends of Ed Pawlowski
PO Box 9366
Allentown, PA 18105

Feel free to contact me at 610-351-0367. I look forward to working with you and your members in the coming campaign.

Sincerely,


Ed Pawlowski
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